(c) Indian airlines (including Alliance Air) and Air India incur an estimated expenditure of Rs. 7 crores and Rs. 19 crores respectively per month on ground handling.

(d) Does not arise in view of reply to part (a).

Agreement with foreign Partners

1345. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Karnataka Government has brought to the notice of the Ministry of Civil Aviation certain provisions of the Airports Authority of India Act, which are coming in the way of finalizing the agreement with foreign partners for Bangalore International Airport; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Ministry is considering requisite amendments in the AAI Act, 1994 to facilitate private sector investment in greenfield airports.

Air Services on Delhi-Raipur-Jabalpur Route

†1346. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Airlines has formulated any scheme to survey the area for starting air services in future to Bilaspur, the important city of Chhattisgarh and Jagdalpur, the tribal dominated area of district Bastar;

(b) whether Indian Airlines is planning to start regular air service from Bhopal, the capital of Madhya Pradesh to Raipur, the capital of Chhattisgarh; and

(c) the reasons for closing down the air services all of a sudden from Delhi to Raipur *via* Jabalpur?

THE MINISRTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) Alliance Air was operating thrice a week Boeing 737 service to Jabalpur on the route Delhi-Raipur-Jabalpur-Delhi. Due to drop in passenger

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.